

Theme Community Meeting Notes

October 6, 2020 (1:00-2:30 PM ET)

Attendees

FGDC Staff

Name	Agency	Role(s)		Name	Agency	Role(s)	
Lorna Schmid	USGS	FGDC OS	✓	James Irvine	USGS	FGDC OS-CS	✓
Lynda Wayne	USGS	FGDC OS-CS	✓	Robin Hoban	USGS	FGDC OS-CS	✓
				Moussa Dia	USGS	FGDC OS-CS	✓

Theme Community

Theme	Theme Lead/Co-Lead	✓	Agency	Proxy
Address	Matt Zimolzak	✓	US Census Bureau	
Address	Steve Lewis	✓	DOT	Derald Dudley
Biodiversity and Ecosystems	Marcia McNiff	✓	USGS	
Cadastre	Dominica VanKoten	✓	BLM	
Climate and Weather	Kari Sheets		NOAA	
Cultural Resources	Deidre McCarthy	✓	NPS	Glenn Guempel
Elevation	Ashley Chappell Hill		NOAA	
Elevation	Susan Buto	✓	USGS	Lee Shoemaker
Geodetic Control	Daniel Roman	✓	NOAA	
Geology	Paul Godfriaux		BOEM	
Geology	Dave Soller		USGS	
Governmental Units	Dierdre Bevington-Attardi	✓	US Census Bureau	Karla Riso
International Boundaries	Lee Schwartz	✓	DOS	
Imagery	Greg Snyder		USGS	
Imagery	John Mootz	✓	USDA	
Land Use - Land Cover	Jim Ellenwood		USFS	Nate Herold, NOAA
Land Use - Land Cover	Brad Reed		USGS	John Dewitz
Real Property	Valerie Butler	✓	GSA	Dave LaBranche, OASD(EI&E)
Soils	Drew Kinney		USDA	
Transportation	Derald Dudley	✓	DOT	
Utilities - Offshore	Jeff Harris	✓	BSEE	
Utilities - Terrestrial	TBD			
Water - Inland	Megan Lang	✓	FWS	
Water - Inland	Rebecca Anderson	✓	USGS	
Water - Oceans and Coasts	Patrick Keown		NOAA	Andy Archer, BOEM

Other Attendees

Mei-ling Freeman, Mimi D'Iorio, Godfred Amponsah, Heston Smith, Ruy Martinez, Greg Snyder, Troy Warburton, Ruy Martinez, Dom Menegus, Gene Thorp, Eric Doornbos, Shirley Hall, Torrin Hultgren, Paul Godfriaux, Kelly Carignan, David LaBranche, Megan Lang, Rick Mueller

Agenda

- ❖ Welcome and Roll Call
- ❖ NGDA Data Theme Changes
 - ❖ Pending Changes to the NGDA Portfolio
- ❖ GDA Reporting Review
 - ❖ Covered Agency (CA) Report Template
 - ❖ Lead Covered Agency (LCA) Report Template Development
 - ❖ NGDA Baseline Standards Inventory
 - Status Review
 - Dashboards
 - ❖ Other Activities – NSDI SP and Circular A-16
- ❖ Metadata Review Process Overview, Demo and Q&A
- ❖ NGDA Inventory & POC Updates
- ❖ Open Discussion

Summary of New Actions

Responsible Party	Description
Theme Leads and Dataset Managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NGDA Changes - Review proposed and pending changes to the NGDA Datasets to ensure they are correct. Contact the NGDATeam@FGDC.gov for any questions about next steps.• Please review any emails sent regarding the NGDA Baseline Standards Inventory status and surveys not completed for any NGDA. The survey closes October 9. Contact the NGDATeam@FGDC.gov with any questions or issues accessing or completing the survey for all NGDA.
Lorna Schmid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the reporting timelines and send any updated deadlines to the Theme Community.• Send a status update for the NGDA Baseline Standards Inventory to the Theme Leads and Agency Points of Contact for awareness.• Send an email to the new OMB POC regarding whether other comments provided on the A-16 revision will be considered.

Opening Remarks

Lorna: Welcome. There is a lot going on right now and we'll be providing updates on multiple efforts.

NGDA Portfolio Changes

This slide has the status of NGDA Portfolio changes.

Marcia: For the ESI Dataset, the Lead Dataset is now NOAA not USGS. It is an approved NGDA Dataset managed by NOAA.

Action: If you have a NGDA Dataset pending a change approval, please review.

Lorna: The Army Military Land Tracts is managed by the COE. It is going to be retired as an NGDA because two other datasets (NGDAID 11 and 134) have that same data and there is no reason to duplicate those datasets.

Glenn: We're in conversation with NGA for a foreign names dataset. Even though they are exempt for NGDA, they are considering adding their data to the domestic names dataset.

Covered Agency Report Template

Lorna: For the Covered Agency (CA) Report, all FGDC agencies are Covered Agencies. They will report on Section 759 of the GDA that has 13 sections. To make it consistent and easier to meet that requirement, we developed a template that covers each of the 13 sections with a suite of questions that collectively will address whether the agency meets the requirement, has made progress toward meeting the requirement, or fails to meet the requirement. The team has finished the template and it will go to the Steering Committee (SC) for approval.

It will then be developed into a Survey123 using ArcGIS Online (AGOL) like the Baseline Standards Inventory. Ivan will be sending the final draft of the questions to the SAOGIs on the SC. Once the agencies approve it, it goes back to the NGDA Team to create the Survey123. The survey will then go back to the SAOGIs to distribute to their agency points of contact to fill out. If they want to distribute the survey to other bureaus or agencies in their department to gather information, they can do that. They can use the survey for BLM, USGS, and NPS and then create one response for DOI, for example. Each SAOGI can choose how to best do that. They can use the Word document, create their own spreadsheet, or use the survey tool to gather and input data that would go into the single final report.

Karla: Do you have tentative dates for when it will be due back?

Lorna: We have been briefing the team with updates to the timeline. Everything isn't due back until December.

Action: Lorna will update the timeline.

Another team is working on Section 759 of the law which is about the themes and management of the themes. There are four specific sections that need to be addressed. The template that is being created will be used for the reports.

Greg: Will lead agencies also be filling out this template?

Lorna: Yes, this is additional reporting requirements for lead covered agencies. In the baseline year, we are really focusing on what is in the Act, and that the A-16 guidance isn't released yet.

We will use the report to gather up things that will be used next year and out years. There is also some dialog for streamlining reporting going forward.

Diedre: In the past, we asked for a spreadsheet who is responsible for what and when?

Lorna: There is one, but not in a format we can share yet. But there is a timeline that has all of these things in it that we can get to you. If we could have something by SAOGI, TL, DSM, etc. and not make it to complicated, that would be helpful.

Action: Update timeline and send for awareness.

Lorna: The report to Congress was drafted and it went out for agency comment. Part 1 will be a high-level report, and Part 2 will be due to Congress in April 2021. The National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Strategic Plan (SP) has been developed with input from the National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC). The final draft report will go to the Steering Committee at the end of October for approval. Agencies provided comment to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the A-16 revision, and the agencies provided the top five comments that they wanted in the revision. The OMB person who was working on it moved on and the new person that came in is catching up.

Dan: Will the comments also provided in the document that were beyond the top five also be reviewed and considered?

Lorna: That is a good question and will be up to the person reviewing.

Action: Lorna will follow up on whether those will be considered.

NGDA Baseline Standards Inventory

The NGDA Team is actively in the phase of getting responses. The survey period will end this Friday. If you know any DSM needs help with this, please send an email to NGDATeam@fgdc.gov. The responses to these will be part of the report to OMB due December 31st.

Sue: Is there any possibility of extending the deadline?

Lorna: We will be rolling up the results and doing the analyses. But, if someone has something going on, the survey will remain open until Monday or Tuesday. We are working on a status spreadsheet to go to the Steering Committee. We sent an email to all participants on September 22nd requesting status, but we did not get 100% participation.

Another email was sent last night just sent to people who had not responded to the Sep 22 email or had said they hadn't started yet. The Theme Leads were copied on that email with a spreadsheet.

Action: Lorna will follow up with all DSM and TL with status as of today.

NGDA Baseline Standards Inventory Dashboards

We haven't briefed Ivan DeLoatch or the Executive Team yet on the Executive-level dashboard yet, but we will also be able to have the status of the other reports in a dashboard like this. These are out of the box widgets and we're still working to see if we can get the font sizing to display better.

For the Theme Lead and Other Agency dashboard, you will need a GeoPlatform account linked to the ArcGIS Online (AGOL). Once that is verified, you will be added to a private AGOL group for access. Lorna will send out instructions to the Theme Leads and Agency Points of Contact on how to get access.

The mail alias we use is NGDATeam@fgdc.gov that goes to Lorna, Jim Irvine, Robin Hoban, Lynda Wayne and a couple of others but it is not a big distribution.

Metadata Review

Lynda Wayne has been reviewing metadata for all NGDA datasets. The results will be shared with NGDA Dataset Managers and Theme Leads with instructions for making corrections. Many of you received an email yesterday to get a MS Teams room set up but I ran into a technical issue that will be resolved soon. Once the Team room is set up, you will have access to spreadsheets and documents that you will be using to add information. Another thing that will be done is updating the Metadata Guidelines with any changes identified.

Lynda developed a review process and checklist document. It has all the background and citations from the GDA, resources, process steps, etc. The last part has a checklist that she used in the review for each NGDA. It has a citation for where in the Metadata Guidelines for that requirement. Lynda also created a Quality Control Log. The Dataset Managers will have the ability to add comments to the spreadsheet in the Teams room. This provides an opportunity to add information why an NGDA or agency workflow doesn't meet a requirement. Those will be used to help inform data.gov and geoplatform.gov, and the Metadata Guidelines. We will also offer a Q&A session after we send the information out to answer any questions. Lynda also created a summary document of findings. We will share some of the errors and omissions for awareness.

Karla: This was a huge undertaking and that spreadsheet will be very helpful. Will the process for data.gov and geoplatform.gov harvesting change?

Lorna: There is no change planned now. But we will be discussing the dynamic harvesting process with the GeoPlatform Technical Team. Agencies will continue to deliver their metadata to data.gov and they will get ingested from there.

Next meeting

Thursday, November 5, 2020 - 1:00-2:30 PM ET